

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 28-55 are now pending in this application.

Information Disclosure Statements

Applicant filed Information Disclosure Statements and PTO SB/08 forms on June 3, 2005, and February 16, 2007. However, the Office has not provided an initialed and signed copy of these SB/08 forms. Furthermore, an Information Disclosure Statement and PTO SB/08 form were filed on January 7, 2008. Applicant respectfully requests that the Office consider the references listed in the PTO SB/08 forms and provide copies of fully initialed PTO SB/08 forms with the next Office correspondence.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Rejection over GB 2,318,767

Claims 28, 29, 32, 33, 35-42, and 44-55 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by GB 2,318,767 (hereafter “Garret *et al.*”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 28 recites a passenger protecting system, comprising a gas generator; and a gas bag including an envelope portion and a filling channel with a narrow portion which extends along a predefined deployment direction, wherein the narrow portion has a length greater than a width, wherein the system is configured so that inflation gas from the gas generator directly enters the filling channel; wherein at least part of the envelope portion is inserted into the

narrow portion of the filling channel; wherein the part of the envelope portion that is inserted into the narrow portion of the filling channel is folded together in a middle of the part to form a U-shaped pack that is inserted into the narrow portion of the filling channel. Claims 51 and 55 include similar language. Claims 29, 32, 33, 35-42, and 44-50 depend from claim 28. Claims 52-54 depend from claim 51.

Garret *et al.* discloses an air bag arrangement in which sections 12, 13, of a head portion 8 of an airbag are tucked inside of the head portion 8 and then the head portion 8 and shoulder portion 7 of the airbag are folded. See Figures 3-5 and 7 of Garret *et al.* The folded head portion 8 and shoulder portion 7 are then inserted into the torso portion 6 of the airbag. See Figures 6 and 8 of Garret *et al.*

However, Garret *et al.* does not disclose a system that includes a gas bag, or a method of folding a gas bag, that includes, among other things, an envelope part that is inserted into a narrow portion of a filling channel, wherein the part of the envelope portion that is inserted into the narrow portion of the filling channel is folded together in a middle of the part to form a U-shaped pack that is inserted into the narrow portion of the filling channel. Therefore, Garret *et al.* does not anticipate claims 28, 29, 32, 33, 35-42, and 44-55 because Garret *et al.* does not disclose all of the features of these claims. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection over WO 98/56622

Claims 28, 30, 31, 33, 34, 42, and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 98/56622 (hereafter “Pausch *et al.*”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Pausch *et al.* discloses a side air bag module in which one section 2 of the air bag is longer than an opposite section 1 of the air bag. See abstract of Pausch *et al.* The longer section 2 of the air bag includes a fold 3a so that a portion of the airbag is folded on the exterior of the air bag or the interior of the air bag. See abstract and Figures 4 and 5 of Pausch *et al.*

However, Pausch *et al.* does not disclose a system that includes, among other things, an envelope part that is inserted into a narrow portion of a filling channel, wherein the part of the envelope portion that is inserted into the narrow portion of the filling channel is folded together in a middle of the part to form a U-shaped pack that is inserted into the narrow portion of the filling channel. Therefore, Pausch *et al.* does not anticipate claims 28, 30, 31, 33, 34, 42, and 43 because Pausch *et al.* does not disclose all of the features of these claims. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Applicant submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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